

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14597 081811Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 EB-08  
ACDA-07 PM-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01  
/088 W  
-----016824 090132Z /66

R 081610Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7027  
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14597

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, UN  
SUBJECT: PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS: II: AFRICA

REF: STATE 205678

1. EMBOFF WENT OVER TALKING POINTS PROVIDED REFTEL  
WITH MFA DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA RACHELE SEPT. 8. RACHELE  
SAID THAT INFORMATION ON U.S. VIEWS WOULD BE ESPECIALLY  
USEFUL TO HIM AS MFA OFFICE FOR UN AFFAIRS HAD TOLD HIM  
THAT AFRICAN PROBLEMS WOULD BE MAJOR PART OF ITALIAN  
PRESENTATION OF GA. HE MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON TOPICS  
RAISED:

2. RHODESIA: ITALIANS SUPPORT US/UK SETTLEMENT EFFORT  
AND BELIEVE THAT FOCUS SHOULD REMAIN ON THESE PROPOSALS.  
WHILE THEY AGREE ON IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING ACTIONS THAT  
MIGHT ENDANGER NEGOTIATIONS, THEY ARE NOT NECESSARILY  
OPPOSED TO A GA RESOLUTION ALONG THE LINES OF THE OAU  
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FORMULATION WHICH RECOGNIZES THAT PATRIOTIC FRONT AS THE  
LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLE ONLY  
DURING THE PERIOD OF ARMED STRUGGLE. THEY WOULD OPPOSE  
ANYTHING AKIN TO THE RESOLUTION LAST YEAR ON SWAPO  
RECOGNITION WHICH GAVE SWAPO "PERMANENT" LEGITIMACY AS  
REPRESENTATIVE OF NAMIBIAN PEOPLE. ITALIANS BELIEVE THAT  
SUCH UNCONDITIONAL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD

PREJUDICE CHANCE FOR HOLDING FREE ELECTIONS IN ZIMBABWE.

3. APARTHEID: ITALIANS WOULD ALSO OPPOSE FINDING THAT APARTHEID IS THREAT TO PEACE, BASING THEIR OBJECTION ON PROCEDURAL GROUND THAT SECURITY COUNCIL, NOT GA, HAS COMPETENCE IN THIS AREA. WHILE ITALIANS GENERALLY AGREE WITH VIEW EXPRESSED IN TALKING POINTS, RACHELE DIFFERED WITH FORMULATION THAT SOUTH AFRICANS SHOULD PROMOTE "FULLER PARTICIPATION" OF ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICAN LIFE BECAUSE OF IMPLICATION THAT CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS NEED ONLY BE BROADENED. ITALIANS BELIEVE THAT SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT MUST CHANGE ALTOGETHER ITS BASIS FOR DEALING WITH BLACK POPULATION AND MUST DO AWAY WITH BANTUSTANS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS.

4. NAMIBIA: RACHELE AGREED THAT NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED BY FIVE-NATION CONTACT GROUP DOES REPRESENT THE BEST CHANCE FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE SAID THAT ITALIANS GIVE "QUALIFIED SUPPORT" TO THIS EFFORT -- "QUALIFIED" IN THAT OUTCOME MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 385 IF IT IS TO ACHIEVE NECESSARY WIDESPREAD ACCEPTANCE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS: II: AFRICA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, US, IT, AF, UN  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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